

hope that the river would lead to the Pacific Ocean and give access to the riches of the Orient.

Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet never reached the Pacific, but their mission was an immense success, for the river they found has brought America wealth beyond measure.

The waters of the Mississippi are the most wide-ranging navigation system in the land; they provide recreational opportunities for millions of Americans; they have been the source of all history and culture that enriches the lives of us all; they nurture our farms and our cities; and they bind our people and the shores of our land from sea to sea.

To commemorate the opening of the upper Mississippi River by Marquette and Jolliet, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 533, has asked that June 17, 1973 be designated as a day of commemoration of this event.

Ante, p. 74.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate June 17, 1973, as a day of commemoration of the opening of the upper Mississippi River by Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet in 1673, and I call upon the people of the United States to join together in acknowledging and appreciating one of our Nation's greatest natural resources and one of the most significant wellsprings of our cultural heritage.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4224

Father's Day, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

June 15, 1973

A Proclamation

Each year, the third Sunday in June is set aside to honor the American father. In a complex and sometimes coldly impersonal age, Father's Day brings us back to basics.

A basic unit of our society is the family which a father helps to form and hold together. A basic force in our economic life is the work a father does to provide for his wife and children. One of the strongest leadership

influences forming the character of our young people is the example a father sets for his sons and daughters. The very identity through which we know ourselves is rooted in surnames proudly inherited from our fathers and their fathers before them.

All of these things are part of what fatherhood means, yet the whole is also more than the sum of its parts. At its heart is the timeless impulse, commonplace yet wonderfully noble, that moves man to partnership with woman and both to the raising of children, children for whom they strive to build a home and a world a little better than what they themselves have known before.

It is the American father's glory that he works to make each day of the year his family's; it is our proper tribute to him, that we should join to make this one day his.

On this Father's Day we again have the opportunity to pay a justly deserved tribute to the counselors, providers, arbiters, and leaders who are our fathers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, in accordance with a joint resolution of the Congress approved April 24, 1972, do hereby request that June 17, 1973, be observed as Father's Day.

86 Stat. 124.
36 USC 142a.

I invite the governments of the States and communities to observe Father's Day with appropriate ceremonies, and I urge all our people to offer public and private expressions on that day of the abiding love and gratitude which they bear for the fathers of America.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4225

National Autistic Children's Week 1973

June 15, 1973

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

One of the most cruel and difficult to understand of all childhood mental disorders is the baffling condition known as childhood autism.